REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-14, 16-19, 23-25, 28-30, and 32-35 are pending. Claims 1, 10, 12, and 25 are amended herein. Claims 4, 8, 9, 15, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, and 31 are cancelled without prejudice. Applicants respectfully request further examination and reconsideration in view of the instant response. No new matter has been added herein as a result of the amendments.

Amendments to the Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to reflect the following (Claims 12 and 25 have been similarly amended):

> An integrated guidance system comprising:
>
> a position determination system adapted for determining a current position;
>
> a differential global position determination system adapted for using a differential correction process to correct errors, wherein a differential correction may be stored in an electronic file and accessed later or said differential correction may be applied in real time;
>
> a lightbar device adapted for providing a visual representation of a deviation of said current position from a desired path to guide movement along said desired path;
>
> a data input device for scrolling, selecting, and editing operations, including configuring said position determining system with a menu, and wherein said data input device comprises a first button, a second button, and a third button;
>
> a display device for displaying text, said menu and graphics, said text, said menu, and said graphics adapted to be viewable under various light conditions, wherein an operator is able to vary the contrast and brightness of said text, said menu, and said graphics by using buttons to interact with a user interface of said integrated guidance system, and wherein said first button, said second button, and said third button facilitate interacting with a plurality of available functions displayed on said display device;
>
> a processor adapted for facilitating user interaction by integrating operation of said position determination system, said lightbar device, said data input device, and said display device; and

a housing enclosing said position determination system, said lightbar device, said data input device, said display device and said processor, wherein said housing has a first wing-shaped portion and a second wing-shaped portion configured to protect a cable connector extending from said housing, and wherein said first button, said second button, and said third button of said data input device are positioned on a top surface of said housing for convenient access by an operator of said integrated guidance system, and wherein said first button is larger than said second button and said third button to reduce the need for visual assistance by said operator to distinguish said first button, said second button, and said third button.

Support for the foregoing amendments can be found at least on page 13, lines 1-8, page 14, lines 15-19, page 15, lines 9-10 and 18. Claim 10 is amended herein to correctly depend from Claim 1 instead of cancelled Claim 9.

Claim Rejections

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1-3, 5-14, and 16-24

The present Office Action rejected Claims 1-3, 5-14, and 16-24 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Gvili (U.S. Patent No. 5,717,593) (hereinafter, "Gvili"), in view of Fowler, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,104,979) (hereinafter, "Fowler"), McClure, et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,539,303) (hereinafter, "McClure"), Murphy (U.S. Patent No. 6,711,475) (hereinafter, "Murphy"), and Weindorf (U.S. Patent No. 6,762,741). Applicants respectfully point out that Claims 8, 9, 20, 21, and 22 are cancelled without prejudice. Applicants has reviewed Gvili, Fowler, McClure, Murphy, and Weindorf, and respectfully submit that Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-14, 16-19, 23, and 24 are patentable over Gvili, in view of Fowler, in further view of McClure, in further view of Murphy, and in further view of Weindorf.

Applicants respectfully point out that amended independent Claim 1 (Claim 12 includes similar features) recites:

> An integrated guidance system comprising:
>
> a position determination system adapted for determining a current position;
>
> a differential global position determination system adapted for using a differential correction process to correct errors, wherein a differential correction may be stored in an electronic file and accessed later or said differential correction may be applied in real time;
>
> a lightbar device adapted for providing a visual representation of a deviation of said current position from a desired path to guide movement along said desired path;
>
> a data input device for scrolling, selecting, and editing operations, including configuring said position determining system with a menu, and wherein said data input device comprises a first button, a second button, and a third button;
>
> a display device for displaying text, said menu and graphics, said text, said menu, and said graphics adapted to be viewable under various light conditions, wherein an operator is able to vary the contrast and brightness of said text, said menu, and said graphics by using buttons to interact with a user interface of said integrated guidance system, and wherein said first button, said second button, and said third button facilitate interacting with a plurality of available functions displayed on said display device;
>
> a processor adapted for facilitating user interaction by integrating operation of said position determination system, said lightbar device, said data input device, and said display device; and
>
> a housing enclosing said position determination system, said lightbar device, said data input device, said display device and said processor, wherein said housing has a first wing-shaped portion and a second wing-shaped portion configured to protect a cable connector extending from said housing, and wherein said first button, said second button, and said third button of said data input device are positioned on a top surface of said housing for convenient access by an operator of said integrated guidance system, and wherein said first button is larger than said second button and said third button to reduce the need for visual assistance by said operator to distinguish said first button, said second button, and said third button.

(Emphasis added.)

The Office Action mailed September 12, 2008 (hereinafter, "instant Office Action") states:

> As per claims 8-9, Gvili does not disclose data input device comprises a first, second, and third button. However, Fowler et al. disclose data input device comprises a first, second, and third button, wherein first, second, and third buttons facilitate interacting with a plurality of available functions displayed on display device (see at least column 3, lines 40-60). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the teach of Gvili by combining data input device comprises a first, second, and third button for selecting different available option [sic] in the display device.

(Instant Office Action, page 6, last paragraph.)

Applicants respectfully agree with the instant Office Action in that, "Gvili does not disclose data input device comprises a first, second, and third button". However, Applicants respectfully submit that Fowler does not include a first, second, and third button positioned on a top surface of a housing for convenient access. Furthermore, Fowler does not include a first button that is larger than a second and third button to reduce the need for visual assistance by said operator to distinguish the first, second, and third button. In fact, Fowler remains silent as to distinguishing input buttons by size and location, thereby reducing the need for visual assistance by an operator.

Moreover, nothing in Fowler suggests including a first button that is larger than a second and third button to reduce the need for visual assistance by said operator to distinguish the first, second, and third button. For example, Applicants understand Fowler to disclose an integrated swath guidance system in which "[t]he entire apparatus is compact and mountable within the operative view of the user as he operates the equipment to be guided, thereby reducing hazard

and navigational error" (Fowler, Abstract). Furthermore, Applicants understand Fowler to provide "the user a way to control the display and select system options without taking his eyes off his task" (Fowler, column 1, lines 53-55) in the following manner:

> A separate external control interface 35 can be connected to provide access to the user in situations where he can not move his hands to control interface 30. In an alternative embodiment, processor 10 and display device 20 could be integrated into one unit, and an external remotely located control interface 35 would be provided.

(Fowler, column 2, lines 52-54.)

Fowler also states, "[t]he invention solves the problems of unwanted navigational deviations and unsafe conditions created by conventional display methods that require the operator to look away from his task to view the display of system information or to input control commands". Applicants respectfully assert that Fowler's system enabling input control commands is distinctly different from Applicants' Claim 1. Applicants respectfully assert that nothing in Fowler discloses buttons of different sizes and at a specific location for the purpose of reducing the need for visual assistance by the operator. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully assert that nothing in Fowler suggests such a location and sizing differential to reduce the need for visual assistance by the operator.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Gvili, McClure, Murphy, and Weindorf suggests the modification of Fowler to arrive at a first, second, and third button positioned on a top surface of a housing for convenient access as well as a first button that is

larger than a second and third button to reduce the need for visual assistance by said operator to distinguish the first, second, and third button.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 1 is patentable over Gvili, in view of Fowler, in further view of McClure, in further view of Murphy, and in further view of Weindorf and is in condition for allowance. Furthermore, for the reasons discussed herein regarding Claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 12 is also patentable and in condition for allowance. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 2, 3, 5-7, 10, and 11 depending on Claim 1, and Claims 13, 14, 16-19, 23, and 24 depending on Claim 12 are patentable as being dependent upon allowable base Claims.

Claims 25-27 and 35

The present Office Action rejected Claims 25-27 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fowler, in view of McClure, in further view of Murphy, and in further view of Weindorf. Applicants respectfully point out that Claims 26 and 27 are cancelled without prejudice. Applicants has reviewed Fowler, McClure, Murphy, and Weindorf and respectfully submit that Claims 25 and 35 are patentable over Fowler, in view of McClure, in further view of Murphy, and in further view of Weindorf.

Applicants respectfully point out that amended independent Claim 25 recites:

> A method of interacting with a guidance system, said method comprising:
> displaying on a display device of said guidance system a plurality of available functions in a menu-driven manner that is user friendly, wherein said display device is adapted for displaying text and graphics, including configuring

said guidance system with said menu, said text, said menu, and said graphics adapted to be viewable under various light conditions, wherein an operator is able to vary the contrast and brightness of said text, said menu, and said graphics by using buttons to interact with a user interface of said guidance system; and

providing said guidance system a data input device adapted for accessing and interacting with any one of said available functions with a minimum number of inputs and with minimum use of said inputs, wherein said data input device enables scrolling, selecting, and editing operations, said data input device comprising a first button, a second button, and a third button that facilitate interacting with a plurality of available functions displayed on said display device, and wherein said display device, said guidance system, and said data input device are integrated in a housing, wherein said housing has a first wing-shaped portion and a second wing-shaped portion configured to protect a cable connector extending from said housing, said first button, said second button, and said third button of said data input device are positioned on a top surface of said housing for convenient access by an operator of said integrated guidance system, and wherein said first button is larger than said second button and said third button to reduce the need for visual assistance by said operator to distinguish said first button, said second button, and said third button.

(Emphasis added.)

The instant Office Action states, "[a]s per claims 26-27, Fowler et al. disclose data input device comprises a first, second, and third input buttons (see at least column 3, lines 40-60. McClure et al. also disclose data input device comprises a first, second, and third input buttons (see at least column 4, lines 29-38; and column 5, lines 35-36). (Instant Office Action, page 15, first full paragraph.)

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Fowler nor McClure includes a first, second, and third button positioned on a top surface of a housing for convenient access. Furthermore, neither Fowler nor McClure includes a first button that is larger than a second and third button to reduce the need for visual assistance by said operator to distinguish the first, second, and third

button. In fact, Fowler and McClure remains silent as to distinguishing input buttons by size and location, thereby reducing the need for visual assistance by an operator.

Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that nothing in Murphy and Weindorf suggests the modification of Fowler and/or McClure to arrive at a first, second, and third button positioned on a top surface of a housing for convenient access as well as a first button that is larger than a second and third button to reduce the need for visual assistance by said operator to distinguish the first, second, and third button.

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 25 is patentable over Fowler, in view of McClure, in further view of Murphy, and in further view of Weindorf and is in condition for allowance. Furthermore, Applicants respectfully submit that Claim 35 depending on Claim 25 is patentable as being dependent upon allowable base Claim.

Claims 28-30 and 32-34

The present Office Action rejected Claims 28-30 and 32-34 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Fowler, in view of McClure, in further view of Murphy, in further view of Weindorf, and in further view of Gvili. Applicants has reviewed Fowler, McClure, Murphy, Weindorf, and Gvili and respectfully submit that Claims 28-30 and 32-34 are patentable over Fowler, in view of McClure, in further view of Murphy, in further view of Weindorf, and in further view of Gvili.

Applicants respectfully submit for the reasons stated herein that Claim 25 is allowable. Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that Claims 28-30 and 32-34 depending on Claim 25 are allowable as being dependant upon an allowable base Claim.

CONCLUSION

In light of the above-listed remarks and amendments, the Applicants respectfully request allowance of the Claims 1-3, 5-7, 10-14, 16-19, 23-25, 28-30, and 32-35.

The Examiner is urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative if the Examiner believes such action would expedite resolution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

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